BENGALURU, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

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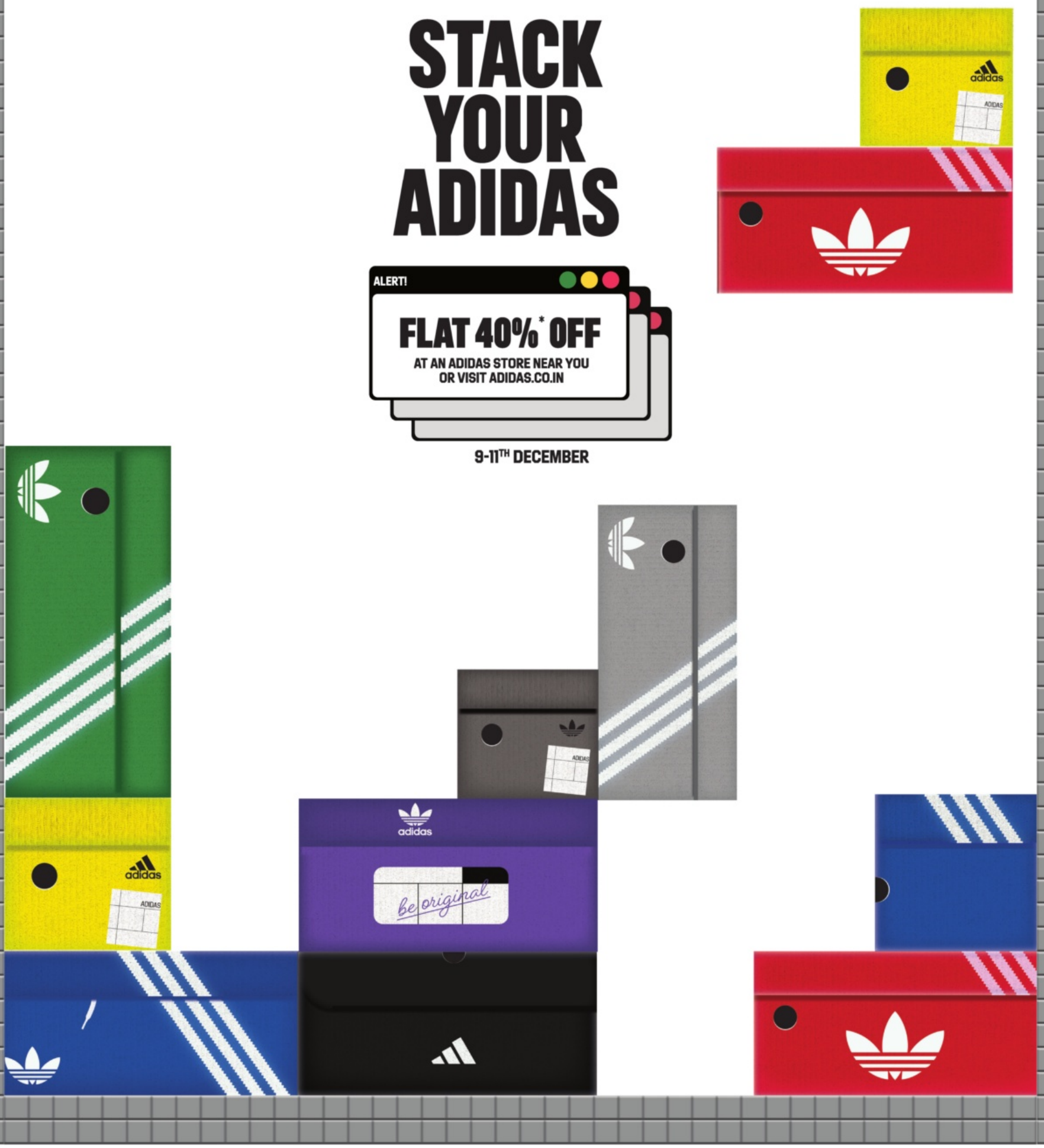

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As fragile as they appear

Turtle smeared with toxic red colour rescued in Coles Park

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We often see street dogs covered with coloured powder during the festival of Holi. The dry colours contain chemicals that are harmful for them. In a similar incident, a turtle was recently spotted by a morning walker in Coles Park with its entire shell coated in red colour.

He reached out to the Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre (ARRC), after which the latter sent a team to rescue the animal. Upon examination, they saw that the Indian pond terrapin had been daubed with a thick layer of 'gulal' powder. As Gulal contains synthetic dyes and fine particles like corn starch and mica dust, it can trigger severe skin, ocular, and respiratory irritation.

The turtle found in Coles park, covered in toxic red coloured powder

Subiksha Venkatesh, Rescue Manager, ARRC, said, "We had to wash off the colours at the earliest by putting minimal stress on the animal. We massaged the shell and body with different materials like oil, cornstarch, and petroleum jelly. It was later washed off with a mild 'dawn' soap at different concentrations. Multiple washes were needed."

> **We had to wash off the colours at the earliest by putting minimal stress on the animal. We massaged the shell with different materials**
>
> –Subiksha Venkatesh, ARRC

The powdered colours can cause skin allergies, rashes, and even blindness in animals. The presence of lead in these colours can also act as an accumulative poison.

While there is not much awareness about turtles in the city, many who spot them and bring them home to keep as pets, which can cause harm. "During heavy rain, the turtles in lakes and ponds often get carried away by the overflowing water. When people find such stranded animals, they often try to move the animal to a 'better', which can have a devastating impact on it. Turtles are wild animals and are illegal to be kept at home as pets." Subiksha said.

These animals suffer from multiple diseases and deficiencies caused due to incorrect diet and environment.

Divyaraj S, Rehabilitator, ARRC, said that turtles make seasonal movements from one water body to the other, during which they face many risks like getting crushed by cars or dog attacks. "Both, freshwater turtles and terrestrial tortoises face depleting water quality in wetlands due to industrial effluence, garbage, and habitat loss due to rapid urban development. Grasslands and even wetlands are still categorised as wastelands and not given adequate protection."

After passing the sink test, which is usually performed to rule out buoyancy disorders, the rescued turtle was released back into its habitat.

What to do when you find a stranded turtle

- Safely pull over and stop traffic on both sides if needed
- Even if it appears dead, make sure it's not by pinching the back leg and checking for reactions
- Visually check the animal for any injuries.
- If you notice the animal is injured, reach out to the nearest Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for help immediately
- If the animal looks okay, carefully pick it up by holding both sides between front and hind legs. Do not drop it
- Do not relocate or release them into water without consultation

Difference between turtles and tortoises

- Turtles are aquatic species, and tortoises are terrestrial species
- Tortoises have more rounded, ridged, and dome like shells, while turtles have flat and more streamlined ones that are soft and smooth (only slightly ridged in some cases) to enable swimming
- Tortoises are primarily herbivores, while turtles are omnivores

'Enough planning, time for action'

NGT wants 'action plans' to stop sewage entry in Doddaballapur lakes to finally come to fruition

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Water Bodies located in the Doddaballapur area are receiving untreated sewage and industrial effluents, according to a report prepared by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB). The board has come up with this conclusion after studying Nagarakere, Chikkatumakuru, and Majarahosahalli lakes in the area.

The report highlights that as many as six wards have been letting in untreated sewage directly into Nagarakere Lake. Moreover, eight 'red' category industries in the Karnataka Small Scale Industrial Development Corporation (KSSIDC) industrial estate are functioning in the area without sewage treatment facilities.

The board has also observed that domestic waste is being led directly into the Chikkatumakuru Lake, which is the main concern for pollution.

KSPCB had recently submitted the report to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in response to an application filed in the green court regarding the increasing pollution of water bodies in the area.

However, the green court, in its latest judgment, observed that while an action plan to restore the Nagarakere Lake and other water bodies in the area was issued by the city municipal council in May 2022, there has been no progress on the ground.

"The said action plan was issued in May 2022, however, there is no progress till today. The action plan is also silent about the timeline within which the above mentioned work will be completed," said the NGT and directed the officials concerned to file a report with the specific timeline to commence and complete the action plan.

> **The said action plan was issued in May 2022, however, there is no progress till today. The plan is also silent about the timeline within which the work is to be completed** — NGT

The KSPCB had, in the past, also served the city municipal council with a show cause notice to meet the water quality standards as set by the board. In response to the notice, the municipal commissioner of Doddaballapur reportedly came up with an action plan regarding the upgradation of STPs and shifting of the underground drainage network to restore Nagarakere Lake.

According to the report, the KSSIDC also needs to take immediate steps to address these issues by providing a treatment facility that would considerably reduce the pollution alleged.

Regarding the discharge of domestic waste into Chikkatumakuru Lake, the local panchayat has been suggested to take steps to stop the sewage generated by the village which is entering the lake.

"If there is no provision for Sewage Treatment Plan, it is the panchayat that has to address the issue. Further, regarding Nagarakere Lake, the necessary direction has to be issued to the City Municipal Council, Doddaballapur for preventing the entry of raw, untreated sewage. The council has also allowed 37 manholes inside the Nagarakere Lake which have to be removed immediately. Unless the entire sewer line is shifted from the lake, the contamination alleged would continue to happen," said the report.

Puttenahalli Lake along Doddaballapur Road (File photo)

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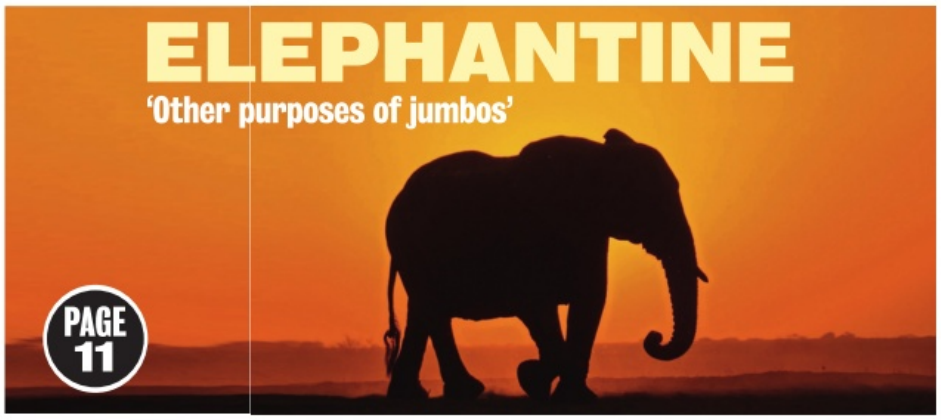

Primary health centre has no drinking water; dilapidated two-bed room has cracked walls/ceiling through which rainwater seeps in

ILL LIFE

30-40 patients from nearby areas visit Konena Agrahara PHC

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The state government and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) have been spending a huge amount to set up Namma Clinics. If the pitiable condition of the Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Konena Agrahara is anything to go by, it seems the authorities concerned are interested in setting up new medical facilities but not keen on maintaining the existing PHCs.

There is no shortage of medicines or staff members to attend to the patients from nearby areas — the condition of the PHC building is appalling. For example, patients need a lot of courage to enter a room that has two beds. The dilapidated room in question is being used to give intravenous sugar solution to needy patients.

The employees at the PHC said seepage of water occurs from the ceiling whenever it rains. The walls have developed cracks. "I have to visit the PHC as I can't afford to go to a private doctor for treatment. It will be a great help for us if the authorities repair the building as early as possible," said Keshava N, a resident of Sri Ramanagar.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

"We will send a health and family welfare engineering team this week to the PHC

— D Randeep, commissioner, State Health and Family Welfare Dept

Waste Smart

Trash bin uses artificial intelligence, computer vision and IoT

| Shreyashi Mukherjee
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bharathi Athinarayanan, a resident of HSR Layout has created the Swach Bin — a smart bin that detects trash and helps in segregation based on an Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithm.

Athinarayanan took up this initiative as a part of the IBM Call for Code Global Challenge. He, along with a team of three, conceived and executed the project. "In my team, Prashanth Parthasarathy and Mohammed Fazil were from Bengaluru; Suneetha Jonadula was from Hyderabad. We all collaborated and came up with the idea of this artificial intelligence-powered smart bin. We wanted to make it efficient and low-cost so that ordinary citizens can easily make use of it. And we named it Swach Bin," he said.

Athinarayanan added that through research, he and his team found that there are five types of waste in Bengaluru namely recycled wet and dry waste, non-recycled hazardous, sanitary, construction waste, and debris.

Based on the aforementioned categories there will be five slots inside the bin. He added that the other features of the bin include an IoT dashboard which will help in reducing carbon emissions by helping the municipal body to plan trips to households on a need basis.

"The IoT dashboard will show how

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Evergreen tunes

Bhoomija presents 'Aaroha', a music-play with Vidwan Mysore Manjunath. 'Aaroha' is written, designed, and directed by popular Kannada director and author S Surendranath. At the centre of the performance is a 20-member youth orchestra conceptualised and conducted by renowned violinist Mysore Manjunath, who will play the lead violin. The musical is a celebration of Indian classical music. **Where: Ranga Shankara When: December 10; Tickets: bookmyshow.com**

02 India art festival

The 2nd Edition of India Art Festival (IAF) in the city will be bringing cutting-edge contemporary art to the city, presented by over 30 art galleries and 400 artists, coming from 40 different cities across India, Singapore and USA. At IAF, the art collectors are spoilt for choices to choose from many mediums and styles - oil paintings, acrylics, water colour, original prints, installations, drawings in myriad styles and many more. **Where: Palace Grounds When: Till December 11, 11 am– 8.30 pm Info: 9820737692**

03 Shop till you drop

The Grand Rajasthani Exhibition organised by Maaruthi Enterprises is holding an exhibition cum sale. The exhibition which brings together rural artisans from the eastern part of India featuring vast collections of cotton and silk handlooms & handicrafts from Orissa, tie and dye fabrics, dress materials and Orissa sarees, West Bengal cotton sarees, and many more.
Where: The Canara Union, Malleswaram When: Till December 18, 10 am to 8.30 pm Info: 89518 99961, 9482959786

SKY IS THE LIMIT

The Indian Air Force's aerobatic display team 'Sarang' performs during the 262nd Corps Day and 11th Reunion of ASC at ASC Centre and College in Bengaluru.

Herpes Zoster: A covid side effect

Dermatologists in Bengaluru say they are witnessing cases of Herpes Zoster in covid-recovered people

Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Even though the pandemic may be over, it will be a while before side effects of the virus post recovery are completely gone.

Many such patients are going to dermatologists with complaints of a burning sensation in different parts of the body. City doctors say that these patients were reporting signs of Herpes Zoster.

"We are witnessing at least one - two cases in patients who suffered from Covid and about six - seven cases in a week," said Dr Vijaya Gowri Bandaru (Consultant – Dermatologist, Sakra World Hospital). She said that Herpes Zoster is a latent infection of Chickenpox. It is a painful condition as this virus is present in the nerves and due to Covid-related stress; the virus gets active and further gives rise to rashes and boils. It is a communicable disease. The most common age it affects is between 40-60 years.

Dr Shireen Furtado (Consultant - Medical and Cosmetic Dermatology, Aster CMI Hospital) added, "Herpes zoster (HZ) or shingles is a viral infection that can cause a painful rash with blisters and can occur anywhere on the body. In a week, we are seeing four to five cases of herpes in recovering or recently recovered Covid patients. The cases are seen mostly with people with diabetes. Low immunity is one of the reasons. Even though it is not a life-threatening condition, it can be very painful. Along with this, we are also seeing patients coming with complaints of many skin problems and witnessing many patients coming with post-Covid fiery red rash on the body."

> **"Low immunity in people is one of the reasons why many are suffering from this infection** – Dr Shireen Furtado, Aster CMI Hospital

Dr Swathi Shivakumar (Consultant - Dermatologist, Aster RV Hospital) added that Herpes zoster occurs due to reactivation of the HZV virus that remains dormant in our nerves after recovery from chickenpox. Covid may be indirectly contributing to the rise in herpes zoster - by affecting our immunity and due to stress.

She said that one cannot definitively attribute it to Covid as most of these patients have not gotten tested for Covid; it is upon asking for symptoms that they report that they suffered from fever or Covid-like symptoms a few weeks back.

Pushing for happier minds in Karnataka

The Karnataka government and NIMHANS should focus more on the positive brain and mental health, said a member of the NITI Aayog while speaking at NIMHANS Convention Centre on Friday.

"We need to create a paradigm of creating positive mental health now. Moreover, we need to include the paediatric component of brain health," Prof Vinod K Paul said.

The 'Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI): Reflection to Action' was held at NIMHANS on December 9.

"The challenges in neurology were firstly how to increase community awareness... fragmentation in the referral pathways, lack of availability of drugs at primary level," said Dr Suvarna Alladi, Department head, Neurology, NIMHANS. Under the programme, many community health workers and ASHA workers were also trained on how to recognise the early symptoms of stroke and other neurological disorders for better treatment.

Dr Rajani P, Deputy Director, Mental Health, DHS, said, "We have planned a few more developments like early diagnosis, brain health promotion, home for the disabled people, timely referral and counselling at the health and wellness centres."

Professor Suvarna Alladi added that currently, there is still a gap between people approaching primary health centres for neurological disorders.

— Saumyangi Yadav

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Not for cars

Haudin Road

Cars are always parked on the footpath in Haudin Road. The new footpaths are breaking and pedestrians have to walk amid traffic.

Illegal activities

Friends Road

Road and pipe work are taking place without permission from BBMP and BWSSB in Friends Road, KR Puram next to the BBMP office.

Smooth work: Kengeri learns lane discipline

Traffic police create separate bus lane with cones to regulate traffic and the effect is so positive that it now plans to make demarcation more permanent

Iffath Fathima
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Traffic police spoke to bus drivers at Satellite Bus Terminal and asked them to drive only through the lanes created for them by the placement of cones; this has helped ease congestion on the Kengeri route

There is a huge relief to the daily commuters on Kengeri route, as the traffic has now eased at large after Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) made a small intervention at the route by creating a separate bus lane for the movement of buses.

The Kengeri route is one the main routes for people travelling from Bengaluru to Mysuru, and back. Many Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) buses use the route on an everyday basis to go to other states like Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

The movement of Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) buses is also high as people can take buses from Kengeri Satellite Bus Terminal to go to different locations like Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Shantinagar, Adugodi, Iskcon Temple, Majestic, Yeshwantpur, Shivajinagar, and others. Due to the high movement of buses on the stretch, there is an increase in traffic congestion. During peak hours, people were stuck for hours and the traffic moved at snail's pace. Upon seeing the problem every day, BTP made separate bus lanes by placing safety cones on the stretch and has been carrying out strict enforcement at the spot regulating the buses to move only through the bus lane.

BP Nagraj, Kengeri traffic police station Inspector, told Bangalore Mirror that people who had to cross the road from one end to come to the bus terminal were unable to do it. "We then spoke to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Kuldeep Kumar and from his approval we created a dedicated bus lane on a trial basis. We then placed safety cones, started managing and regulating the buses on the stretch," he said.

"It's been a week since we got this in effect and we see a great change. Now, two wheeler and four wheeler vehicles are able to move easily," he added. In order to bring this move into effect, firstly, the Kengeri traffic police officials spoke to bus drivers at Kengeri Bus Satellite Terminal. They were told to only drive through the bus lane.

"All the drivers readily agreed to move only through the bus bays. And once we placed the cones, the buses were moving only on that stretch. It's been a week now, and even the bus drivers are happy as they are able to move fast," he explained.

> **"Simple solutions like this can bring a big change. Lane discipline is the key. From the past two days, I see the traffic congestion has come down** – Ravi J, commuter

The other problem that existed at the location was haphazard parking of buses on the road. In spite of having a bus terminal in the area, the bus drivers would park the buses on the road. "We gave warning to all the bus drivers and spoke to the BMTC bus depot officials to not allow the buses to be parked on the roads. On seeing the buses, many passengers come on the road which is very unsafe," Nagraj further said.

According to DCP Traffic West Kuldeep Kumar, the new move by BTP at the Kengeri Satellite Bus Stand is ensuring zero congestion and utmost safety for the road users including pedestrians.

"Simple solutions like this can bring a big change. Lane discipline is the key. From the past two days, I see the traffic congestion has come down majorly on this stretch. The BTP should maintain the same consistency in bringing out such measures," said Ravi J, a commuter. As the bus lane has been beneficial at the Kengeri junction, the Kengeri traffic police will shortly replace the cones with permanent structures at the bus lane.

This route is busy

- It is one of the main routes for travelling to and from the city to Mysuru
- KSRTC buses use the route daily also to go to states like Tamil Nadu and Kerala
- On top of that BMTC buses are available from Kengeri satellite bus terminal to areas such as Rajarajeshwari nagar, Shantinagar, Adugodi, Iskcon Temple, Majestic, Yeshwantpur, Shivajinagar
- Due to the presence of so many buses, traffic on the road moves at snail's pace

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NOTICE FOR PAYMENT OF OVERDUE LOCKER RENT

Sl. No	Name of locker Holder & Address	Overdue locker Rent	Details of notices sent	Overdue Since
1	Mohan P G S/o P. Govindraj Guptha No.11 Mandipete BIDADI, RAMANAGAR A/c No-848110110000302	Rs. 8,800+ GST	18-01-2021 30-11-2021 08-08-2022	14-06-2014
2	NARASIMHA S/o Siddappa THIMMEGOWDANADODDI, ITTAMADU PO BIDADI, RAMANAGARA A/c No-848110110000886	Rs 6,600+ GST	18-01-2021 30-11-2021 08-08-2022	04-02-2016
3	NAGARAJU S S/o Siddappa No. 17 BILLEDODDI, M G PALYA POST BIDADI HOBLI A/c No-848110110001301	Rs 4,400+GST	18-01-2021 30-11-2021 08-08-2022	06-03-2018

"The above-mentioned locker holders are maintaining locker with Bank of India, Bidadi Branch, We have sent various communications in this regard to payment of overdue locker rent on the dates mentioned in column 4 of the above table. However the same has not been paid despite various reminders. All locker holders are once again advised to deposit the overdue rent mentioned in column no 3 of the above table within 15 days from publication of this notification.
In the event of non-payment the bank will drill open the locker at their (locker-holder) cost, expenses and charges entirely at their risk and responsibility after 15 days from date of this publication/ notice".

Date : 08.12.2022
Place : Bidadi
Branch Manager
Bank of India

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(Distt. - Saran), Bihar 841221
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Principal Chief Materials Manager/Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the **President of India** invites **online "e-Open Tender"**, through Indian Railways E-Procurement Website **www.ireps.gov.in** for supply of following Stores item at RWP/Bela. The closing time of all tenders is 14:00 hrs. **SN.-1. Tender No.:** 01221021C, **Short Description of item :** Air Setting Mortar, **Quantity :** 10546.50 Kgs., **Date of Tender Closing/Opening : 04.01.2023 at 14:00 Hrs. SN.-2. Tender No.:** 01221038B, **Short Description of item :**Pouring Tube ceramic, **Quantity :** 1265.00 Numbers, **Date of Tender Closing/Opening : 04.01.2023 at 14:00 Hrs. 1.** Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is **www.ireps.gov.in. 2.**The prospective firms/ bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with the above website for updates including **Addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation** with respect to the above tender. However, this information will also be invariably published in the all concerned newspapers.
PCMM/RWP/Bela
RWP/CPRO/Advt/2022-23/90

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E-Tender Notice No. Deadapproach_LC_40nos Dated: 26-12-2022

Item of work	Approx. Value
Provision of dead approach locking for engineering interlocked LC Gates - 40 Nos. over Bengaluru Division.	Rs. 58,08,517.72

E-Tender Notice No. ElFat_Setup_SBCDiv Dated: 26-12-2022

Description of work	Approx. Value
Setting up of arrangements for Factory acceptance test Development of self-reliance in electronic interlocking system) at Bengaluru Division.	Rs. 11,50,000.00

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 26-12-2022
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Bengaluru
PUB/526/AAD/PRB/SWR/2022-23
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

Relocated, abandoned, gone missing

FIR filed against members of RWA of gated society for allegedly abusing and relocating 10 streeties

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

An FIR has been filed at the Devanahalli police station against a Residential Welfare Association (RWA) of a private gated society for allegedly inflicting cruelty on stray animals and relocating them from their natural habitat. This was after 10 street dogs from the society in north Bengaluru went missing over the last few months.

The complaint was raised by Arshleen Kaur, a resident of the gated community, who has been taking care of the animals over the last four years.

According to Kaur, there used to be around 20 street dogs inside the layout when she moved in as a resident four years ago.

"All the dogs were just skin and bones when we moved in in 2018. While there were around 20 dogs in the area, we were taking care of 12 of them. However, ten out of those have gone missing over time. Three out of ten dogs went missing on Thursday and that was when we decided to file a complaint. We have CCTV footage of the dogs being picked up in a van which was allowed inside the campus by the security manager," said Kaur while alleging that the animals were also subjected to cruelty when they were picked up on Thursday.

"The footage shows that one of the dogs, who is 14 years old and half blind, was dragged across and then thrown inside the van. We have been facing constant harassment by our fellow residents and our Resident Welfare Association (RWA) for feeding and taking care of the animals. All the dogs had their ears notched and they were vaccinated," alleged Kaur.

While the complaint has been filed against the RWA of the society, the members claim they have no role to play in this issue.

"We have no role to play here. There are a few residents who have been complaining about the dogs inside the layout. These residents reportedly reached out to the local panchayat and the panchayat officials have acted on the complaint," said a member of the RWA.

However, the local panchayat officials reportedly denied deputing any vehicle to pick up the dogs from the layout.

> **RWAs are not following the procedure because of the lack of awareness. Even government officials -- in this case the local panchayat -- are unaware**
>
> –Alwyn Sebastian, animal rights lawyer

According to animal rights lawyers and activists, the majority of the RWAs in the city have stopped following the guidelines prescribed under the Animal Birth Control Rule, 2001. The rule does not provide for the relocation of street dogs except under special circumstances.

"RWAs are not following the procedure mostly because of the lack of awareness. Even the government officials, which in this case is the local panchayat, are not aware of the protocols to be followed in case of stray dog issues. Strict guidelines should be issued to all government offices directing the officials to strictly adhere to the Animal Birth Control Rule, 2001. The rule does not provide for relocation," said Alwyn Sebastian, animal rights lawyer.

Don't drink & drive, say B'luru's bars

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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Bengaluru's traffic police have come up with a new concept to dissuade people from driving while intoxicated.

Cops are targeting liquor shops as part of their 'don't drink and drive' campaign where officials are busy visiting a number of bars in their jurisdictional limits and pasting various kinds of stickers.

A police officer said, "Ever since the pandemic struck, we have not been able to properly carry out the drive against drunken driving. Even cops are loathe to check motorists while many drivers refuse to use the alcometer. Hence, we are reaching out to the pubs. We noticed that most of the people who go to bars, drive and so obviously, they are drunk while driving back."

Bar owners are cooperative, say staffers. Sanjay R, who runs a bar on Hesaraghatta Road said that while it was their business to sell liquor, but they always tell their customers not to drink and drive. "We are happy to cooperate with the cops on this initiative. Many customers are also surprised to see the stickers from the police department. However, the awareness is yet to pick up."

Drink? Only if you are vaxxed

Meanwhile, the Excise Department is also carrying out a campaign, although it is slightly different.

Officials have been reaching out to bars with an aim of spreading awareness about covid vaccines. Many bars in Sindhanur of Raichur district have been putting up posters stating that only those who have been vaccinated twice will be allowed to drink.

A bar owner from Sindhanur said, "The covid vaccine hesitancy is still higher in rural areas. When we ask people as to why they are not getting vaccinated, the common answer is that they cannot quit drinking for a fortnight after taking vaccines and hence, they were avoiding the shots. So, we are asking the customers to get both the doses of vaccines before they come in. By doing so, we are convincing people to take the vaccines."

> **We are happy to cooperate with the cops**
>
> –Sanjay R, manager of a bar

An excise department official said, "We have taken up this poster campaign as a few people are under the misconception that they cannot drink after vaccination and hence avoid the shots. We are reassuring people that they can continue with their favourite drinks but not at the cost of vaccines. We hope to help the health officials in awareness of the inoculation."

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Pull of Mysuru Road: Metro to ply till Challaghatta next year

Metro is playing a key role in the realty growth of the city. Mysuru Road is one of the fastest growing sectors in the city and Metro has aided its growth. Now, the last leg of the Mysuru Road Metro is set for expansion in 2023 as the Metro trains will chug till the last destination of Challaghatta.

Metro officials said that they were hopeful of the extension till Challaghatta next year and property buyers feel that this will be a big boon to the residents. In fact, the first leg of the Metro train was on the purple route that connected MG Road to Mysuru Road (Nayandanahalli).

In the second phase, the Nayandahalli Metro station was connected to Kengeri. In the next year, the Metro train will have an addition of 2.05 kilometre as it will halt at Challaghatta. "Once it is connected to Challaghatta, then it means that one can take the Metro train from NICE Road onwards. This will definitely help those people to cross the busy stretches of Mysuru via Metro. This will also aid the property boom of Mysuru Road," said an official.

Currently, the big plus point for the buyers are the extension of the Metro network on Mysuru Road and added new stations like Nayandahalli, RR Nagar, Jnana Bharati, Pattangere, Kengeri bus terminus and Kengeri. The BMRCL will also be adding a seventh station where the Challaghatta Metro depot is located. The new station located across NICE road will help people to commute to other parts of the city using NICE road as well.

A realtor said, "Currently, the Metro train to Kengeri is a big boon as many properties are just minutes away from the Metro station. The areas in and around Kengeri are seeing a big push in terms of infrastructure. Today, Mysuru Road has good connectivity to any part of the city in less than 30 to 40 minutes thanks to NICE Road and the 10-lane highway. While many areas in the city are struggling with water issues, here the water connection is good. Many other areas have become concrete jungles, but this area has a lot of greenery. If we look at appreciation of property prices, the doubling rate is quite high. If people want to invest in property, it is the best bet here. This area is good to build individual houses, commutes to the city area is easy and they get a home in a peaceful environment in a budget-friendly manner."

Mysuru Road is turning out to be a preferred destination for property buyers, thanks to Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway. "People wanted to move out of congested CBD areas so that they could build their dream houses on spacious land. There are a lot of lands available on Mysuru Road and thanks to excellent infrastructure like Metro and expressway, relocating to Mysuru Road is turning out to be a preferred choice," another realtor added.

There is a great traction among property and apartment buyers towards Mysuru Road. The choice of projects from budget to premium in this area, is a key driver of demand. Property developers say that the key infrastructure projects on Mysuru Road will propel the realty growth. The advantage of Mysuru road home is that one can travel to any place in Bengaluru quite quickly due to NICE Road, Metro and train. On the other hand, the new 10-lane road to Mysuru will help people move to other cities on Mysuru in a hassle-free manner.

Bengaluru leads in leasable land

In a recent study on Real Estate Investment Trust (REITs) by Windmill Capital, it was found that India recorded 6.85 pc YoY growths in total leasable area of listed REITs from 87.6 mn sq ft as of September 30, 2021 to 93.6 mn sq ft as of September 30, 2022. According to the corporate filings of listed REITs, amongst total leasable area under REITs available in Indian cities, Bengaluru leads with 27.8 mn sq ft of total leasable area under REITs as of September 30, 2022. The city witnessed 2.96 pc YoY growth in leasable area from 27 mn sq ft as of September 30, 2021. Bengaluru expects addition of 2.1 mn sq ft of REIT leasable area in the city.

– Prakash VL

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Online home loans, property documents could be reality soon

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in a recent notification stated that it will soon be possible to digitise property and mortgage documents. This will also act as a push for home loans, as it will make the process more digital. According to the notification, home loans will be brought under the digital documentation category.

Industry experts welcome this move as, "The current home loan process is tedious and requires several documents (party agreements, home loan agreements etc.) and multiple visits to the bank. However, with this new move, this daunting process could be eased. As for the bankers, the smooth process (when implemented) could lead to an increase in lending in the times to come. For developers too, it will be a blessing in disguise. Easier the home loan process, more the buyers can come forward to buy a home. More loans can be dispersed to more homebuyers and it will thus be a win-win for all," opines Anuj Puri, chairman, Anarock Group.

Digitisation of land records and property documents too is expected to benefit the sector overall. "Lack of reliable and dependable data has historically marred the economy in general and real estate in particular. Digitisation of real estate records will be a great boost to the industry. India has already taken several steps towards digitisation. With data localisation and security also falling in place, it is only logical to go for this initiative," says Gulam Zia, senior executive director - Research, Advisory, Infrastructure, and Valuation, Knight Frank India.

Times Property

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Woman sets daughters ablaze in Kolar, taken into custody

A woman was taken into custody for allegedly setting ablaze her two daughters over a family dispute atop Anjanadri hill in the Mulabagilu town of Kolar, the police informed. The woman, identified as Jyoti, hailed from Kurubanahalli in Ramasamudram, Andhra Pradesh and had come with her children to the hilltop to die by suicide.

According to the police, she had set her children on fire on Wednesday morning, in which one of the daughters (6-year-old) died on the spot while another suffered serious burn injuries. She is reported to be in critical condition and is under treatment.

"The woman too was about to set herself ablaze but was stopped by locals," the police said. The city police visited the place after receiving information from villagers and rescued another girl who is now undergoing treatment. The injured child was sent to the Mulabagilu Government Hospital.

Mother Jyoti has been taken into custody by the police and is being interrogated. **ANI**

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Exh. No. : 19
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Versus
G. Narasimha Gurumurthy Rao ... Respondent
To,
G. Narasimha Gurumurthy Rao R/at - No. 160, 8th Main Road, Andhra Colony, Viveknagar, Bangalore-560047
Where as the above named petitioner filed a petition for Divorce under Section 13(1)(i-a) of Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. You are hereby given notice to appear in this Family Court, Pune in person to file your appearance in the Court at 11:00 am on the date 27.12.2022 failing which the petition will be heard in your absence and determined exparte.
Given under my hand and seal of this Court on dt. 08.11.2022
By Order,
Dy. Registrar
Family Court, Pune
Place: Pune
Date: 08.11.2022

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mehfarid Sob John S/o Sahib Jan R/o #210A Block A , E C S Layout , Kudlu , Singasandra B'luru-560068 have changed my name to Mehfarid Sahib Jan for all purposes.

I, Mrs. Leelavathi Thammaiah, D/o. late Thammaiah, residing at No. 462, Shankar Residency, No. 001, 12th Cross, 8th Main, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, declaring that my husband Late Raju Appanna Javana's name is updated wrongly in my passport as Raju Appanna Javanamaster, I would like to get his name updated correctly, vide affidavit dated 28.11.2022, sworn before notary B.K.R Krishnamurthy, Bangalore.

I, Mrs. Leelavathi Thammaiah, D/o. late Thammaiah, residing at No. 462, Shankar Residency, No. 001, 12th Cross, 8th Main, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, declaring that my Father Late Thimmaiah's name is updated wrongly in my passport as Thimmaiahppa, I would like to get his name updated correctly, vide affidavit dated 29.11.2022, sworn before notary B.K.R Krishnamurthy, Bangalore.

I, Mrs. Leelavathi Thammaiahppa, D/o. late Thammaiah, residing at No. 462, Shankar Residency, No. 001, 12th Cross, 8th Main, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, have changed my name to Leelavathi Thammaiah, vide affidavit dated 28.11.2022, sworn before notary B.K.R Krishnamurthy, Bangalore.

I Ram Prasad D S S/O, Gupta D R S R/o 177, F F 102, 2nd Cross Road, Koramangala 1st Block, Bangalore 560034 have changed my name to D S Ramprasad for all purposes

I Gohil Jayrajsinh Prakashsinh S/O, Prakashsinh Gohil R/o B 113, Trifecta Joli, Hadosiddapura, Carmelaram Post, Bengaluru 560035 have changed my name to Jayrajsinh Gohil

I, DEEPAKBHAI alias DAHYALAL PARBATBHAI PATEL alias NAKRANI DAYALAL alias DIPAKBHAI PARBATBHAI S/O Sri Parbat Patel R/O No.301,48th Cross, Poornaprajna Layout, Uttarahalli, Bangalore South-560061 Have Changed My Name to DEEPAK KUMAR P PATEL Vide Affidavit Dated:01-12-2022 Before Notary Deepa M, Bangalore

I, SHAHINSHA AMIR and residing at E4, Chaitanya Samarpan, Hoskote, Whitefield Main Road, Kannamangala, Bengaluru 560067 have changed my minor Son's name from SAMIR SHAHISHA AMIR to SAMIR SHAHINSHA AMIR vide affidavit dated 08.12.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I Rammurti Shrinivas Naidu S/O, Shrinivas L Naidu R/o #16/1, Sri Krishna House Chikkatirupathi Main Road Hemmandahalli Samethanahalli Bangalore, have changed my name to Ram Shrinivas Naidu for all purposes.

I, Durgesh Ramasamy, R/o #002, B-Block, Jeevans Pristine Apt, 79/2 Munnekollal, Bangalore-560037 have changed my minor daughter name from DHAKSHASHRI to DHAKSHASHRI DURGESH

I, Attaluru Laxmiprasad Revathy W/o D. N Sreekrishna R/o #71 2nd floor , Sree Sesha Sai krupa Telecom layout , Srirampura B'lore-560064 have changed my name to Devadula Revathy Krishna for all future purposes.

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I, RAMESH, S/o, Venkatesh Shenoy and Residing at No.111, Katyayini Nilaya, 6th Cross, S B Nagar, Brigade Uttarahalli 2nd Main, Chikkalasandra, Bangalore 560061 have changed my name to RAMESH SHENOY vide affidavit dated 07.12.2022 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, B.lore.

I, Vanshika D/o Sachin Goel R/o #216, Vaastu Dewflower-1, SY No 36, Kumbena Agrahara, Kadugodi Post B'lore-560067 have changed my name to Vanshika Goel for all purposes.

I, Sachin Goel R/o #216, Vaastu Dewflower-1, SY No 36, Kumbena Agrahara, Kadugodi Post B'lore-560067 have changed my minor son name from Vansh to Vansh Goel for all purposes.

I, Annje Janni W/o Putheadathumannil Varkey Jacob R/o Athamvidyanagar, kothanur, Bangalore 560077 has changed my name to Achamma Thomas for all purposes.

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Airport plan gives wings to realty in Tumakuru Road

The infrastructure on Tumakuru Road has got a new boost this week as Chief Minister Basavaraj S Bommai announced a new international airport at Tumakuru. Bommai announced that the international airport in Tumakuru will be helpful in decongesting Bengaluru airport. Besides the airport, there is a proposal to build a 1,000 acre township in Tumakuru. Realtors said that this will aid in further growth of areas in and around Tumakuru Road.

A realtor said, "Around a decade ago, Devanahalli Road had now not seen much growth though people were buying land anticipating the growth in real estate prices. However, today, realty growth in and around Devanahalli has expanded by leaps and bounds, thanks to the airport. Now, Tumakuru Road is also heading to a similar growth in wake of the proposed airport. It is the right time to buy property around Tumakuru Road for future investment."

"Tumakuru Road is heading for growth due to the proposed airport. It is the right time to buy property around here

Along with the airport, the current 10-lane expressway will also be a game changer for Tumakuru Road infrastructure. The work is on to widen the existing Nelamangala-Tumakuru national highway from the current four-lane to a 10-lane highway (44.04 km) at a cost of Rs 844 crore.

This project is set to be completed in three years. This project will give a big boost to the Sompura industrial area and better connectivity to the Kempegowda International Airport as well. This project has been taken up under the Bharatmala project. This project which will have a six-lane expressway with four-lane service road on either side will be a big boost to the industries and residential plots. Currently, Sompura industrial area houses more than 500 industries.

There is also a proposal to construct a retaining wall on either side to prevent accidents. The project will have 17 flyovers including railway over bridges. The project will also be a green highway as 600 plants will be planted along the highway. **– Prakash VL**

Would it be wise to buy a home early in your career?

Pooja.Mahimkar
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Buying a house, or a car, or taking a trip abroad every year, is a goal one sets and then works towards it. Checking off a box early in life is not just a personal achievement but also sets you on a path of financial discipline that would help you achieve all your other goals as well. Most people wait till they are in their late 30s or early 40s to make their 'big' home purchase. And it sure does make sense as well; one has more savings, investments, as well as a good enough corpus to afford a nice home.

There are a few perks of buying a home early as well. We list some down for you.

Goal setting

Because you are young and have more time at hand, you can avail of a home loan for a longer tenure, effectively reducing your EMI burden.

"I bought a house worth Rs 80 lakh in 2021. I saved Rs 12,000 every month in an equity mutual fund for the last seven years since I got my first job. This helped me save Rs 15 lakh for the down payment. Now the entire responsibility of paying the EMI of Rs 38,873, on time, is on me. While the EMI is eating up a majority of my income right now, I can afford it as I have no dependents," says Raj H (28), a copywriter.

Raj opines that the discipline with which he saved money since the very beginning of his career has helped him be stricter with his spending and leisure expenses. He believes that this discipline would only aid him to achieve more of his financial goals.

Pro tip: Prepaying your home loan in the early phase of the tenure would help you save a substantial interest amount.

So, if Raj pays just one extra EMI each year, he will effectively reduce his interest amount by approximately Rs 13 lakh. Or else if he just hikes his EMI every year by 10 per cent, he will save nearly Rs 33 lakh of interest amount.

Income earning asset

As most Indian youngsters stay with their parents till the time they get married or move cities for work or academic reasons, investing in a second home can help you generate a second source of income.

"A second home helps you lead a better life, and have positive outcomes such as wealth creation, a passive income stream in the form of rent, and timely retirement if required and planned well," adds Adhil Shetty, CEO, Bankbazaar.

Buying a property early also usually means that you'll hold it for a longer period a decade or two, if not more. And thus, the price appreciation could be substantial.

However, to make the most of the price appreciation, do your due diligence and invest in an upcoming area with the potential to get popular or an area which is already popular and will stay so for a long time.

Credit score

The credit score is an important factor when applying for any loan, or even a credit card. "Borrowing for homeownership will give you an early introduction to credit scores. Timely repayment of your loan will help you build a strong credit history," adds Shetty.

A home loan can also help you streamline tax planning and avail several perks. It will account for most of your tax savings claimed against your loan's principal and interest repayments. **Times Property**

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

much waste is in the bin. Once the bin is 80 to 85% filled, it will send a notification to the BBMP. Hence, they will come only when there is a need," Athinarayanan said.

According to him, the bin is made cost-effective for the benefit of the citizens. The components used in making the bin are easily available at a low cost. It is portable, so carrying it around will not be a problem. The bin also has a text-to-speech option that will help in educating the people about the kind of waste they throw in the bin. "We have planned to provide real-time regional language translation as well in the future," he said. The bin as a whole uses artificial intelligence, computer vision, and IoT. "Recently, I read the news that BBMP is telling citizens to come forth with innovative ideas of Solid Waste Management in the city. After reading the report, I shared this project with the civic body as well. They said they will take it to the central government and see how it can be supported," Athinarayanan told BM.

Athinarayanan and his team came second runner-up in the IBM Call for Code Global Challenge. They were also invited to the United Nations to showcase their project. "Due to visa issues and other things, we were not able to go there so they took our virtual interview." The team also won a prize of 10,000 US

B'luru-Mysuru highway: Wait some more, folks

Highway gets a March deadline; construction of big bypasses like Srirangapatna, Mandya and roads near Yeliyur canal still pending

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

The completion of Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway has missed several deadlines and now the latest deadline set for the entire road stretch is March first week.

According to Mysuru MP Pratap Simha, though a majority of the road works may be completed by this year-end, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) would require a few more months. As of now the plans are to invite PM Modi to inaugurate the 'fully-completed' expressway in March first week.

Meanwhile, Maddur bypass works have been completed. The MP added that the Srirangapatna bypass which was also to be completed by November end has been delayed further due to incessant rainfall earlier. Hence, the project is nearing completion and would be thrown open anytime soon.

Once these two projects are completed, the only big project pending would be the Mandya bypass which would take time at least till the month end for completion. "This mean that we would have completed all the bypasses including Bidadi, Ramanagara- Channapatna, Maddur, Mandya and Srirangapatna. Yet, we need to complete works like roads near Yeliyur canal, Hanakere underpass, minor works near Budanur, Indavala and Gowdahalli," said Simha.

"We are now estimating that these works may be completed by March first week when we hope to invite PM Modi to inaugurate the fully completed Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway," he further added.

Earlier, the expressway was to be opened by Dasara 2022.

Work delayed due to rainfall

According to a NHAI official, rain played spoilsport this year as Bidadi and Ramanagara Hobli received heavy rainfall between August 24 to 30.

> **"We would have completed all the bypasses including Bidadi, Ramanagara, Channapatna, Maddur, Mandya and Sirangapatna** – Pratap Simha, MP

The average rainfall received in Bidadi is 31.3 mm and Ramanagar 31.7 mm. The excessive rainfall derailed the plan of early completion of the expressway.

The works have been divided into two phases; Bengaluru-Nidaghatta and Nidaghatta-Mysore sections. A 4.22 km flyover is being built near Panchamukhi Ganesha temple.

The Bengaluru-Mysuru section will have 53 km of Greenfield roads in the form of bypasses; Bidadi (7 km), Ramanagara-Channapatna (22 km), Maddur (7 km including 3.5 km of elevated highway), Mandya (10 km) and Srirangapatna (7 km).

A new lay-bye with amenities will be created at Ramanagara bypass road. The toll booths will come up at Kumbalgodu and Srirangapatna. The authorities have also identified 69 junctions along the highway which will see 50 underpasses and 19 flyovers so that there are no crossings at grade junctions. As of now, Bidadi and Ramanagara-Channapatna bypass and Kumbalgodu flyover have been opened to traffic. **— Prakash VI**

State of healthcare

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Narasimha Murthy of Konena Agrahara said that he has been availing medical facilities at the PHC for many years. "There is no shortage of medicines. The staff members are good. What is worrying me is the condition of the building. I will be very happy if the PHC building is maintained properly," said Murthy. It is quite surprising to know that the PHC has no water facility. It has to depend on the adjacent school for water. "We have to depend on Sir M Visvesvaraya PU College for water. The management of the college has been kind enough to supply water all these years," said an employee of the PHC.

The PHC premises is full of weeds making it inconvenient not only to the patients but also to the students of Sir M Visvesvaraya PU College. "A team of BBMP engineers inspected the PHC building. They suggested construction of a new building instead of renovating the existing building," said Dr Chethana N, the physician in charge at the facility. Around 30 to 40 patients from nearby areas visit the PHC during the weekdays. The centre is maintained by the State Health and Family Welfare Department. Meanwhile, State Health and Family Welfare commissioner D Randeep said Dr Chethana has already informed the District Health Officer (DHO) about the condition of the PHC building.

"We will send a health and family welfare engineering team this week to the PHC. Based on the input and available budget, repair/renovation of the building will be taken up," said Randeep.

Pray, what are 'other purposes' of jumbos?

Wildlife conservationists worry amendment to Act allowing transfer of elephants for unspecified purposes may prove tricky

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The Wildlife Protection Amendment Bill, which had proposed significant amendments to the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 was passed on Thursday. As per the bill, the most important amendment made to section 43 of the act will now allow for the transfer of elephants, a schedule I animal, for 'religious and other purposes'.

However, this has raised concerns amongst wildlife conservationists and researchers in Karnataka about the indiscriminate capture of these animals and keeping them in captivity.

They say the clause on the transfer of elephants for religious and 'other' purposes is ambiguous and is going to be extremely challenging to continue with conservation activities.

"The term 'other purposes' has been left ambiguous on purpose. While elephant conservationists have always raised their voice against elephants performing in temples, this amendment will only open the gates for such practices without any checks and balances. It is now going to be a cakewalk for the temple trusts to transport and acquire the elephants for various festivals," said Ramesh Belagere, wildlife researcher, Foundation for Ecology and Education Development.

Researchers also highlight that while breeding of this Schedule I animal was only allowed in the forest camps earlier, this amendment might override that aspect as well. This might also encourage state governments to exchange elephants for any purpose.

Elephants are used for temple processions

"Once the animal is out of its home state, there is no tracking and accountability of their living condition. For instance, the state forest department might now want to translocate elephants to other states since most of the elephant camps are full. However, the man-elephant conflict is still raging in various districts such as Hassan," added Belagere.

Joseph Hoover, president of United Conservation Movement and former member of State Board for Wildlife, said the amendment will spell doom for elephants in Karnataka as the state is home to the highest number of elephants in India.

"As it is, there are many captive elephants in possession of people with no proper paperwork and the forest department has not batted an eye. Captive elephants are brought in to participate in processions and are tortured in that process. The amendment will further allow things to go lax. Now any number of people will be able to own elephants. Many religious places in Karnataka own elephants illegally. Now the forest department officers will be more jittery in taking up legitimate cases of poaching and other wildlife offences," said Hoover.

> **"After the amendment, it is going to be a cakewalk for the temple trusts to transport and acquire the elephants for various festivals** –Ramesh Belagere, wildlife researcher

'Mandous' effect: Bengaluru readies for 4 days of rain

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted rain and cloudy weather for Bengaluru in view of the cyclone effect in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Due to Cyclone 'Mandous', Bengaluru will receive rain till December 12. There will be cloudy atmosphere and drizzle throughout, the IMD officers stated.

Cyclone alert given to neighbouring states and it will affect the city too

"Deep depression over Southwest and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal intensified into a cyclonic storm called Mandous. Cyclone alert has been given to neighbouring states and it will affect Bengaluru also," stated the IMD.

Karnataka coastal regions and north interior regions are likely to receive heavy rainfall with lightning and thunder on December 11 and 12.

Chikkamagaluru, Kolar, Mysuru and Tumakuru are also going to receive rainfall.

The IMD also said that North Karnataka districts of Bagalkot, Kalaburagi, Raichur, Vijayapura and Yadgir will get rain.

South districts of Karnataka will also receive rainfall. **IANS**

RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at c-rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Shapeshifter blues

For a moment if you set aside the forced distraction of overt politicking now saturating the media beyond measure, the fact remains: the world is bracing for the impact of a massive economic slump.

This day and age, in India, when elections should have been fought on issues that naturally plague a coming-of-age economy, such as access to free healthcare, technology and long pending reforms in almost all societal spheres post independence, abject poverty, peaking social inequity, joblessness and a cost of living crisis continue to be the core conundrums resonating with the electorate.

It's as though we have been hugely set back in the past decade or so — still grappling with issues akin to the years post independence.

This exposes the brute callousness of the ruling class interested only in winning elections and not societal advance while losing moral currency, instances of which are often sealed off from public gaze nevertheless.

Do factor in the fallout of a largely unnecessary and ongoing military escalation in southeastern Europe alongside the continuing aftermath of a deadly coronavirus, years of jobless growth religiously championed by the neoliberal order and surely the impact of the bursting tech bubble not to mention the technocrats disinterested in salvaging the sinking prospects of humanity, and in the meantime, keeping themselves busy building their own private fortresses of immense ill-gotten wealth.

Neoliberal crony capitalists, acquiring all they can when the world as we knew rapidly slips into oblivion, forget that they not only need political regimes that can see them through the tumultuous future of climatic, economic and social uncertainties and not ones that are increasingly drawing notoriety for their arrogance of unbridled power, intolerance for diversity, dissent and religious minorities, in the ensuing demagoguery, but also the survival of their penury-stricken human consumer base from whom they loot blatantly in the name of technology, data, energy and so on.

If you don't shape up for the future, the future shall inevitably shape your fall as has been proven numerous times if we look at civilisational histories; the most advanced of economies have realised this fact if you view the world as a pyramid with the welfare economies of Scandinavia at the top and down to the global south.

Even Scandinavians are now finding it difficult to cope with the exodus of those seeking refuge pouring in to the sub-polar geography — which is definitely the result of the savagery unleashed by opportunist and majoritarian political power centres, propped up by the neoliberal engine, upon the weak and vulnerable at the middle of this pyramid — the Rohingyas, Afghans, Kurds and so forth.

This is where a realignment of the global establishment is inevitable, conscious or forced — an all essential rearrangement of ruling dispensations and capitalists that flourish alongside. Since it is too late to break the symbiotic, if not nefarious, bond, surely it can be tweaked taking into account the challenges of the day — climate resilience, clean energy and efficiency, and more importantly, subsequent social readiness, sustainability and equity. Meanwhile, here we are, still struggling with food, clothing and shelter.

At the outset, from the immediate reality of crumbling urban infra in Bengaluru to inflationary worries across India, it is incomprehensible, somewhat surprising and plain hard to make sense why only electioneering holds the interest of large sections of the media and not the mounting worries and uncertainty clouding the life of unemployed youths.

More importantly, now that we are surpassing China as the most populous nation, more than ever, social cohesion is paramount. If festering hatred, othering of citizens and capitalising on communal faultlines are policy, then what of the massive demographic dividend?

For instance, unanimity of states, not friction, is the need of the hour; news of discord between neighbouring states, even from this geography and the North East does not bode well at this juncture; in some instances the tension has resulted in deaths.

The social challenge at hand is unfathomable as the future looks bleak even for the most future-ready nations; for Germany in the west and Japan in the east for instance. It is unfortunate that we are lost in the spectre of societal divisions even today and keep brushing under the carpet burning issues that can break our prospect of traversing the obstacle-laden stretches ahead.

How sustainable is the contemporary political rhetoric even for the few business tycoons that are in awe of the status quo, is something they themselves need to look at more closely even as the electorate gains the much needed momentum to decide the future course of governance, even at the local civic body level riddled with infra woes in the absence of an elected city council and so on or at the state or national level where welfare economics is missing altogether.

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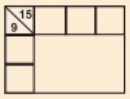
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$64 \times 16^{-3x} = 16^{(3x-2)}$

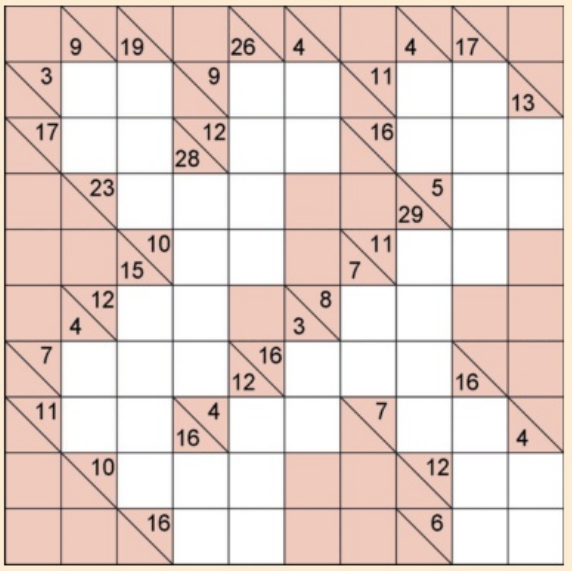
$x = ?$

Kakuro

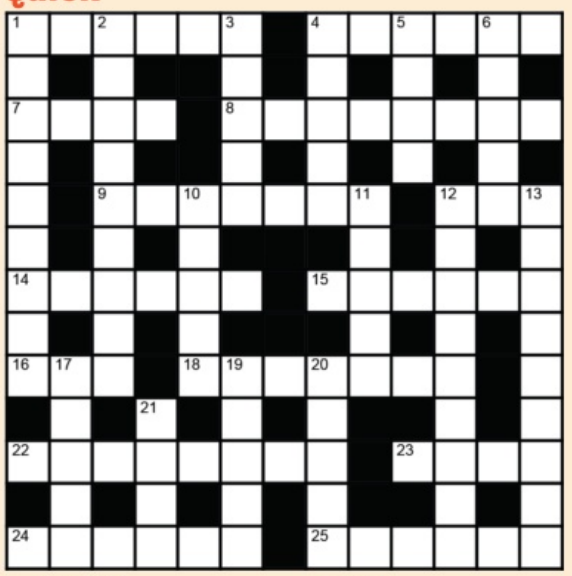
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Outdoor meal (6)
4 Clergyman's discourse (6)
7 Melody (4)
8 Veteran (3-5)
9 Transfer to another for care (7)
12 Fairy queen (3)
14 Popular vegetarian Italian restaurant on Krishna Rajendra road (6)
15 Fate, destiny (6)
16 Indian Police Service, acronym (3)
18 Distended (7)
22 Tree-dwelling (8)
23 Mongolian desert (4)
24 In the land of Nod (6)
25 Picked or elected (6)

DOWN

1 Mixture of dried flower petals (9)
2 Comes to a focal point (9)
3 Church singers (5)
4 Right and left? (5)
5 Devastation (4)
6 Musical drama (5)
10 Implements (5)
11 Test or experiment? (5)
12 Having great importance? (9)
13 Military unit (9)
17 Tiny openings (5)
19 Puppy (5)
20 Shade of purple (5)
21 Brood (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS H

TF UTGBF UABOGE PZLLGK TFXI TAE, HFKB LG HGGO VSGE WFALH UABF.

Linemaro

Smoking is hazardous to your health ... and baby, you're killing me!

Mindchow

In the beginning there was nothing, which exploded

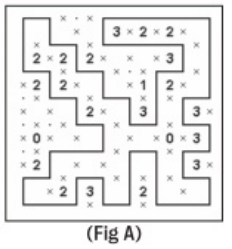
Joke of the day

She: I've just come from the beauty salon
He: Too bad they were closed

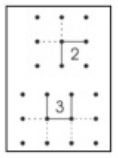
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



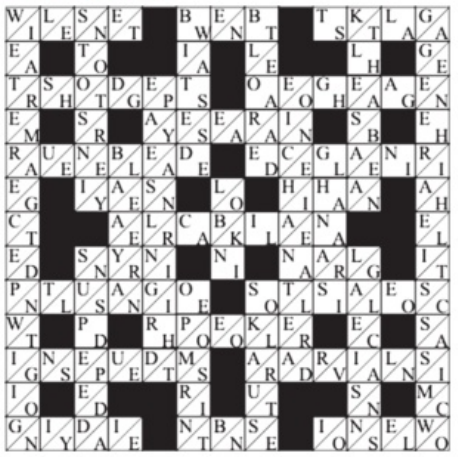
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

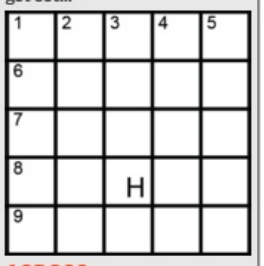
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

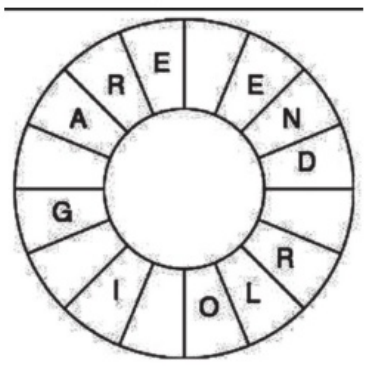
1 A plum; 6 Boner;
7 Blear; 8 Hi tec;
9 So Hug

DOWN

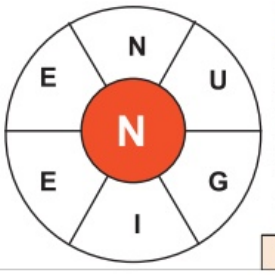
1 Babes; 2 Mo lot;
3 Rah up; 4 Ruing;
5 Cheel

Mensapuzzle

Find a familiar phrase (6, 6, 4) reading clockwise. You have to find the starting point and provide the missing letters.



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

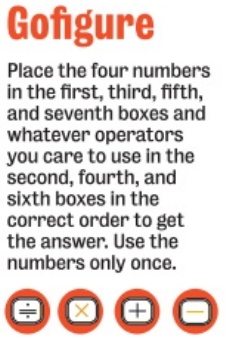
SudokuChallenge

1			9		2			7
7	6		5	8	1		2	3
		9	1		3	4		
	1						8	
		5	2		8	3		
2	7		8	9	5		4	6
5			6		4			9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 9
1 4 5 9

Medium = 24
1 8 8 9

Hard = 41
5 8 9 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

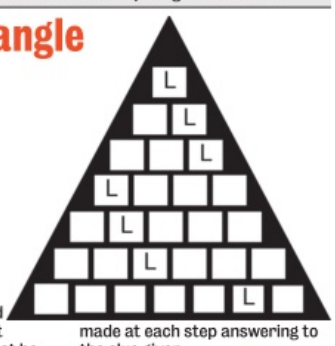
Differences: 1. Steering wheel is missing. 2. Foot is moved. 3. Sleeve is shorter. 4. Man is thinner. 5. Hat is different. 6. Tree limb is missing.

Riddler

Each pair of definitions is for two words, where the second word is the first word with a letter deleted (example: brand & band). The length of the first word in each pair is provided, along with the position of the deleted letter to obtain the second word. 1) a person of small stature (4 letters) & (delete 3rd letter) a track worn by a wheel 2) unmistakably evident(5 letters) & (delete 1st letter) having a strong unpleasant smell 3) of or relating to the universe (6 letters) & (delete 3rd letter) causing laughter or amusement 4) animal skin that is prepared for use (7 letters) & (delete 2nd letter) a foam formed when soap is agitated in water

Alpha triangle

1 XXV + XXV
2 Mr. Gore
3 Compadre
4 Jump
5 Position
6 Regal digs
7 Competent



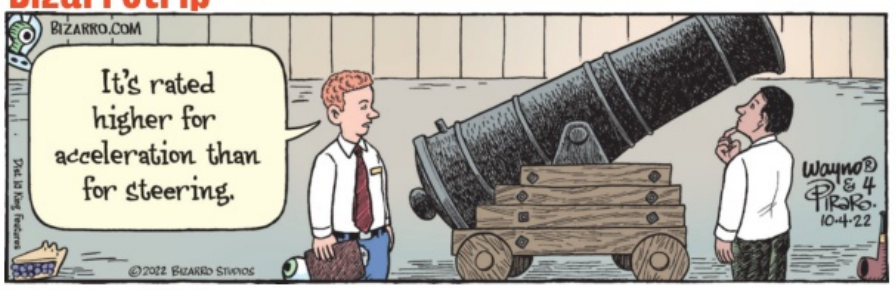
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

RICK THE POPSICLE STICK DROPS BY:
HOW WAS YOUR SUMMER, RICK?
AS YOU CAN SEE, IT WAS SUCCESSFUL... POPSICLE EATEN!
WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?
I HOPE TO FIND WORK WITH AN E.N.T.
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www.creators.com

Hart of the city

A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME, MISS?
NOT NOW, HEART. I'M BUSY.
JUST A FEW QUESTIONS. WHERE WERE YOU YESTERDAY AFTERNOON?
HERE!
MY MOM IS MAKING ME CLEAN MY ROOM AGAIN CUZ I LOST MY SCISSORS AND IT'S A "HAZARD" IF I DON'T KNOW WHERE SOMETHING SHARP IS.
IF I KNOW KAT, AND I DO, SHE'S GOING TO BE CLEANING FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

Crankshaft

WELL, NOW THAT THE VALENTINE IS OURS TO RUN AGAIN...
I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND GET TO WORK.
9-30
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY GO FOR AN ICE CREAM TO CELEBRATE.
BATUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you will be glad. You will be able to maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditure, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you to implement your plans. Your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. You may plan to visit your elders.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today your energy level will be high, so it will make you happy and optimistic to fulfil your desires with the help of hard work. You will plan to go for outings with your friends and family to share your happiness. Students will hear good news in terms of their academics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, until late afternoon, your day may not be good. You may feel unhappy and become nervous. After noon, you will feel better and your internal vitality will improve your self-confidence. You should avoid carelessness while making decisions in terms of finances, profession, and studies. You may face self-respect issues with your spouse. You need to keep patience to avoid turning happy moments into bad ones. Lovebirds will plan short trips.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. You should be careful while expressing yourself at work and on the domestic front. You should avoid lending money. You should postpone making important decisions in real estate and other assets. You should try to avoid a tendency of elevation from your responsibilities.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today a social get-together will re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in the near future. Those related to glamour, art, and fashion will plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform better today. Lovebirds will enjoy happy moments.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today will be a busy day for you in terms of work. Overload can make you tired, but you will enjoy your work. Your day will be good. You will not spend money on worthless things. You will be more polite with your family, friends, and loved ones. You may also get some good news from family members.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today your plans will not work on the professional front, which can make you arrogant. You should try to avoid taking important decisions in terms of investments and relationships. Couples and lovebirds should try to avoid arguments and maintain harmony in relationships. Students should not choose shortcuts in their studies.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, blessings from elders will give you confidence. You should follow your intuition before taking any initiative. This will help you in your work. Your intuition will help you gain more in terms of finances. You will plan to visit some spiritual place with your family members. You must control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life.

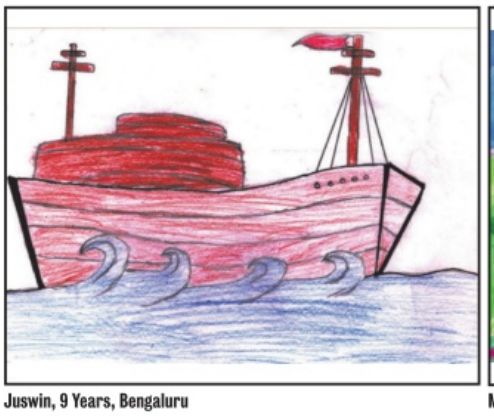
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, before noon, you may feel happy and will enjoy your work. Afternoon onwards, negative feelings will make you dull, which will affect your professional life. You may expect a domestic argument too. You should avoid lending money to anyone today. You will analyse yourself and figure out your negativities. Occult sciences will attract you today.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. You will be in a very good mood this morning. You will be more romantic also. It will create harmony in your domestic life. Your patience will help you to do your best professionally. You will see some coordination with your colleagues and business partners.

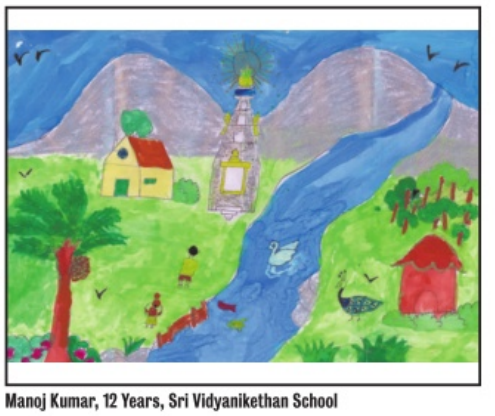
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You will be successful in controlling worthless expenditure, which will boost your bank balance. You should be careful regarding your kids' health. Singles can see unexpected progress in terms of marriage. People related to travel, diplomats, supply chain workers will do well. You should be careful with stomach issues.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today the moon will make you more sensitive and emotional. You should avoid investing in real estate or other assets. You should take care of your parents' health. You may expect to see some delay in your work as well, but you will face it with patience. On the professional front, you should not be indecisive.

KIDZONE



Juswin, 9 Years, Bengaluru



Manoj Kumar, 12 Years, Sri Vidyanikethan School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

64 = 16^(3x − 2)/ 16^(−3x)
64 = 16(3x − 2). 16^3x
64 = 16^(6x − 2)
2^6 = 2^4^(6x − 2)
2^6 = 2 ^(24x − 8)
Then : 6 = 24x − 8
14 = 24x
x = 14/24 = 7/12

QUOTE UNCODE

He whose wisdom cannot help him, gets no good from being wise.

S	O	U	G	H
E	T	H	I	C
B	L	A	R	E
B	O	R	N	E
A	M	P	U	L

FAST FIVE

STRIKE OUT

N	I	D	E		N	E		O	S	L
		E			I			E		O
I	N	P	U	T	S		A	D	V	A
T		P	H	O	O	K	E		E	S
P	L	U	N	G	E		S	T	I	L
E	S	R	I		I	N	A	G		I
C		A	R	A	B	I	A	N		L
E	Y	E	S		O	H	A	N		A
R	E	E	L	E	D		E	C	L	A
M	R		Y	E	A	R	N		B	E
R	H	O	D	E	S		A	E	G	A
A	T		I		L		H		E	N
W	E	S	T		W	E	B	S	T	A

QUICK

P	I	C	N	I	C		S	E	R	M
O		O		H		T		U		P
T	U	N	E		O	L	O	T	I	M
P		V		I		E		N		R
A	S	L	E	E	P		C	H	O	S

MENSA PUZZLE

TENDER LOVING CARE

RIDDLER

1) runt & rut,
2) frank & rank,
3) cosmic & comic,
4) leather & lather

BULL'S EYE

engine, ennui, gene, genie, GENUINE, nine

SUDOKU

5	8	1	6	9	4	2	7	3
2	7	3	8	9	5	1	4	6
4	9	6	3	1	7	2	5	8
6	4	5	2	7	8	3	9	1
3	1	7	4	5	9	6	8	2
8	2	9	1	6	3	4	7	5
9	5	2	7	3	6	8	1	4
7	6	4	5	8	1	9	2	3
1	3	8	9	4	2	5	6	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE

L, Al, Pal, Leap, Place, Palace, Capable.

GO FIGURE

Easy
9 – 4 – 1 + 5 = 9
Medium
9 + 8 + 8 – 1 = 24
Hard
5 x 8 + 9 – 8 = 41

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Kristen, the jury head
US actor Kristen Stewart will in February head up the jury at Berlin's international film festival. Stewart, 32, would be the youngest person in its 73-year history to lead the panel

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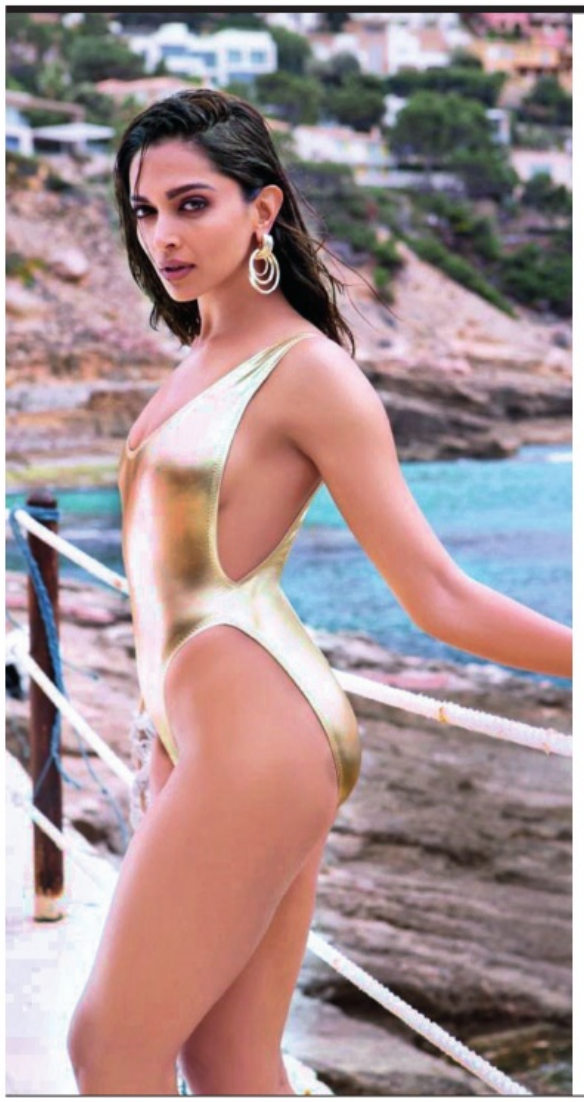

Golden girl

Deepika is glamour personified in monokini for Pathaan song

Shah Rukh Khan has officially announced that the first song from 'Pathaan' will be unveiled next week. The actor posted a glamorous look of Deepika Padukone from 'Besharam Rang' and revealed that the number will drop on December 12. DP stuns in a glamorous gold monokini in the first look of 'Besharam Rang', which has been shot in the picturesque locales of Spain. The makers promise to present Deepika Padukone and SRK's breathtaking chemistry in this number.

Speaking about the song, director Siddharth Malhotra says, "Yes, it is true that the first song of our film is releasing on Monday. It's called Besharam Rang and it will present two of the biggest superstars of our generation Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone in their hottest avatar yet." He adds, "For us, this one is the party anthem of the season that people have been waiting for and I'm confident that it will stay a party anthem for many, many years to come. So, I want to tell the fans and audience to patiently wait for the song when it releases on Monday morning! The wait for this one will be worth every second from now!"

'Pathaan' is being touted as India's biggest ever action spectacle. This spy drama features Shah Rukh Khan, Deepika Padukone and John Abraham playing the leads and Salman Khan essaying a cameo. 'Pathaan' is set to hit the screens on January 25, 2023 and will be released in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

—ETimes

Fight hate with love

Rashmika Mandanna, who is popularly known as the national crush, was trolled mercilessly on social media after she stated that she hasn't watched 'Kantara' and hopes to catch it soon. The Kannada star recently attended an event in Hyderabad where she revealed that she finally watched the movie and even congratulated the team on the success of the film. Responding to all the hate she has been receiving from people on social media, Rashmika said that she just has love for them.

Elaborating further, the actress added that just 2-3 days after the film released, she was asked if she had watched the film and back then she hadn't watched it yet. However, now she finally watched it and even messaged the team congratulating them. Rashmika also added that the team also thanked her for the message. According to her, the world doesn't know what's happening on the inside and they can't put a camera on their personal lives and show it.

Rashmika also went on to add that more than what people speak of her personal life, it's what's being spoken about her professional life that matters the most.

Meanwhile, on the work front, she will next be seen in 'Mission Majnu' co-starring Sidharth Malhotra.

—ETimes

Jennifer Lawrence gets fact-checked

Hollywood star Jennifer Lawrence has been widely criticised after claiming that there's no female action movie lead before her.

Speaking with actress Viola Davis, she said: "I remember when I was doing 'Hunger Games', nobody had ever put a woman in the lead of an action movie because it wouldn't work - because we were told girls and boys can both identify with a male lead, but boys cannot identify with a female lead."

She added: "And it just makes me so happy every single time I see a movie come out that just blows through every one of those beliefs, and proves that it is just a lie to keep certain people out of the movies. To keep certain people in the same positions that they've always been in."

Many quickly disagreed with Lawrence as Franklin Leonard, founder of The Black List, said on Twitter in response to the interview: "It is untrue that no one had ever put a woman in an action movie before Jennifer Lawrence in 'Hunger Games'."

—IANS

Maximum beauty

Nine times Khushi Kapoor made a statement for minimalistic fashion

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Tale of inspiration

VIJAYANANDA
3.5 RATING ★★★½☆
- **DIRECTOR** Rishika Sharma
- **ACTORS** Nihal R, Bharat Bopanna, Anant Nag, Vinaya Prasad, Ravichandran, Siri Prahlad.
- **Duration** 159 minutes
- **Certification** U

Biopic of business magnate-turned-politician Dr Vijay Sankeshwar that has been made in five languages opens with the scene of a band troupe waiting at Gadag Railway Station to welcome someone. They are there to receive Vijay Sankeshwar (Nihal Rajput) who has brought along a semi-automatic printing machine from Mumbai against his father BG Sankeshwar's (Anant Nag) wishes. Vijay Sankeshwar tries to convince his father about the advantage of this machine over the traditional treadle machine.

The movie traces the success of Vijay Sankeshwar in not only managing the printing machine but also his foray into transport business. The director aptly narrates how Vijay Sankeshwar's family members opposed him when he told them that he has decided to buy a truck. In the second part of the film, we see how the protagonist succeeds in the business by establishing a fleet of trucks, starting from one truck. The director shows how Vijay Sankeshwar's mother Chandramma), wife Lalitha (Siri Prahlad) and son Anand Sankeshwar (Bharath Bhopanna) aid him in his success story.

Nihal Rajput deserves appreciation for accepting to play the lead that has no masala elements for the the front-benchers at cinema halls. And the film only has one action scene at a wholesale market in Gadag.

Siri Prahlad looks beautiful and has provided good support. Veteran actor Anant Nag is at his best. His gait in North Karnataka attire is superb. His performance in two scenes where he asks Nihal to write a deed stating that his family members will not be responsible for the loans availed by the latter, and other at Vijay Sankeshwar's office where he sees his son worship his photo, can melt even the toughests of hearts. Veteran actor Crazy Star Ravichandran plays a cameo while director-cum-actor Dayal Padmanabhan is convincing as a vicious transport agent. Bharath Bopanna as Anand Sankeshwar done a good job.

Art director Anil Kabir has kept it neat. The art work in the pre-intermission session transports audiences to the 1960s. Cinematographer Keerthan Poojari has done a commendable job behind the camera. It would have been better had the director trimmed the movie by 10 to 15 minutes.

The movie is worth a watch for all those are looking for an inspiration to aim high.

—Y Maheswara Reddy